

SUMMER POLITICS

This year it is more serious than it looks

Like small boys dashing for the old swimming hole, members of the U. S. Congress scurried out of Washington last week. Congress was taking an informal hot-weather recess and happy Congressmen were off to plunge into back-home politics. In 30 States which have primary elections in August and September the political ponds were full of summer splashers—Senators, Representatives, governors, hopeful candidates of all kinds. Even the President of the U. S. got splashed in a New York State fight (see p. 32).

One Congressman who is right in the swim is the amazing Hamilton Fish (left and below), Republican Representative from New York's 26th District. The spectacle of Ham Fish running for Congress again looks like sheer midsummer madness to most of the U. S. Ham Fish was in Berlin and issued a statement declaring Nazi claims were "just" two days before World War II began. He was a loud-mouthed and empty-headed opponent of President Roosevelt's anti-Axis policy. He gave free postal franks to German-inspired propaganda and let his office become a nest of isolationist intrigue in Washington. He is thoroughly despised by other members of Congress and has been roundly damned by the leading Republicans of his State—Thomas E. Dewey and Wendell Willkie. But Ham Fish is making a great splash in his Hudson River district these days, laughing off his record, boasting of his votes against draft extension, against lease-lend, against fortifying Guam. His principal opponents are a quiet Newburgh lawyer and a quieter Vassar professor. Fish simply outshouts and outlaughs them in debate. Ham Fish in Congress is a national disgrace, but if the people of his own district don't get rid of him, nobody can.



Congressman Ham Fish bids wife and daughter good-morning as he leaves Newburgh, N. Y. home (rented for this campaign) for a busy day of politics. He asked

the photographer to put his Negro maid in front for this picture. Fish commanded Negro troops in France in last war, figures he has the Negro vote sewed up.



"No nation can invade the U. S.!" cried Ham Fish at this political picnic in Cornwall, ignoring Japs who were already in Aleutians. Old neighbors applauded this typical Fish state-

ment, booed Professor Emerson Fite, a Fish rival who pointed out that Fish has been absent on many important roll calls in Congress. Fish was born in his Hudson River district and

thrives on local Republican hatred of Franklin Roosevelt, who lives across the river. Voters who plan to vote for Fish again explained: "Ham guessed wrong, but so did a lot of us."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 31



The glamor boy of Kentucky politics is Senator Albert Benjamin ("Happy") Chandler (above), who was renominated by Kentucky Democrats Aug. 1 after an uncomfortable primary campaign. The big issue Happy had to explain was the 60-ft. blue-tiled swimming pool in which he is here shown,

whiling away a hot afternoon, while Mrs. Chandler (top, with arm around son Dan) and friends look on. This pool was built in Happy's backyard in Versailles by a contractor who also built miles of Kentucky highways and now holds lucrative war contracts. It didn't cost Happy a cent. When his

primary rival advertised the swimming pool all over Kentucky, the Senate's Truman Committee came to Happy's rescue, announced he had done nothing wrong in accepting it as a gift. This week Happy was planning to go to Alaska with a Congressional committee investigating the war.

Mrs. Bob Hope

wife of the famous radio and screen star



BOB LOVES THE EXTRA FLAVOR COLMAN'S GIVES TO FOOD. HERE'S HIS FAVORITE DISH—

Savory Ham: Rub a paste of two tablespoons Colman's (dry) Mustard and two tablespoons water into both sides of a slice of tenderized ham about 1 1/4 inches thick (wt. about 2 lbs.). Place ham slice in shallow baking dish, cover with 1 cup milk and bake 45 minutes at 425° F. or until ham is tender and top is nicely browned.



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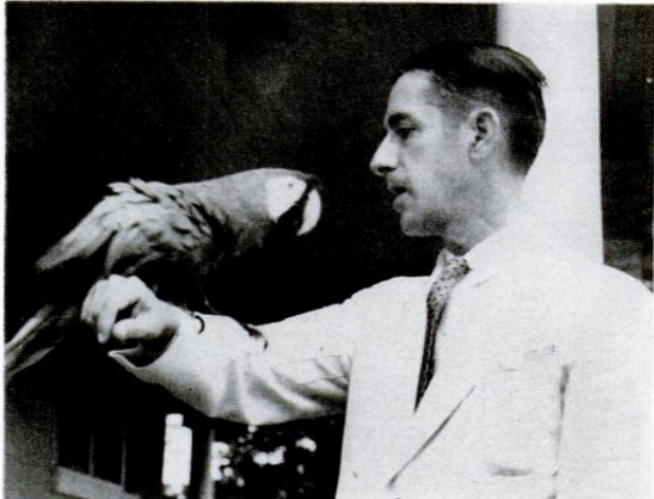
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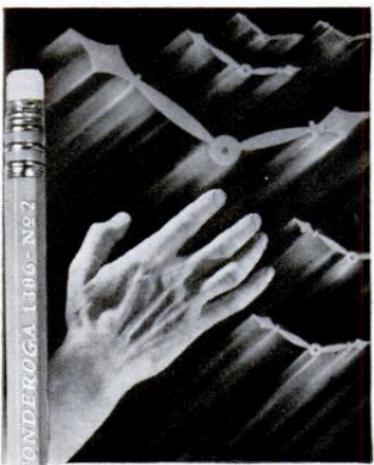
Texas Democrats on July 25 failed to renominate Senator W. Lee ("Pappy") O'Daniel, who snatched hasty lunches (above) and tried to talk down his isolationist record during the bitter primary. Now he faces runoff against ex-Governor James V. Allred.



Tennessee Democrats chuckled over Governor Prentice Cooper and parrot, Laura (above). Nashville *Tennessean*, opposed to his renomination, charged he "hated" dogs and kept a noisy parrot instead. "No one likes dogs better than I," retorted Cooper.



New York Democrats waited to be told whether Attorney General John J. Bennett (left) or Senator James M. Mead (right) would be candidate for governor. They are pawns of Franklin Roosevelt (who wants Mead) and Jim Farley (who wants Bennett).



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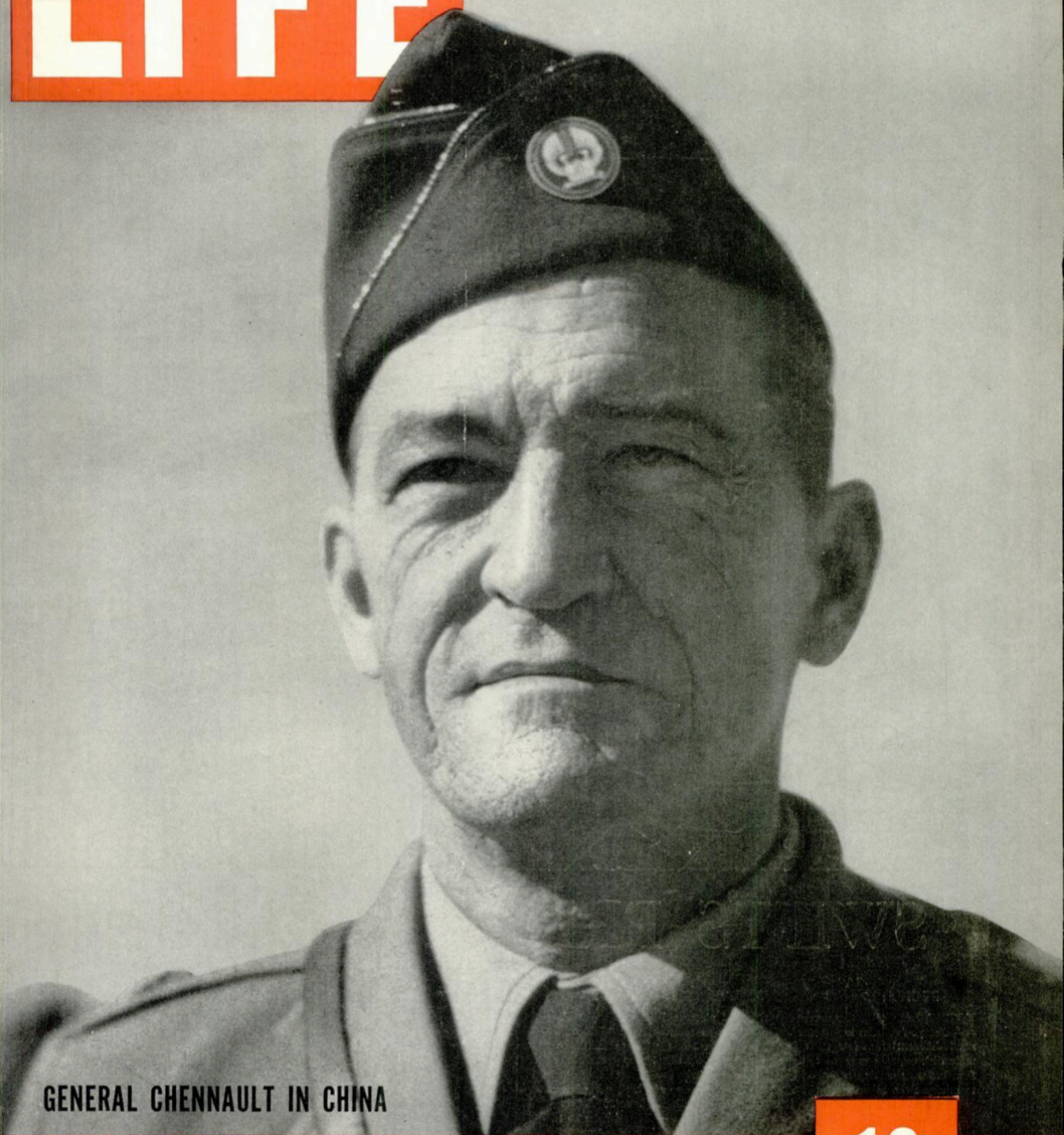
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LIFE'S PICTURES

Johnny Florea, whose Picture of the Week shows cadets taking the bombardier's oath (p. 21), always carries a loaded camera—just in case. As a news photographer for the San Francisco *Examiner* he specialized in covering crime stories. A professional actor on the side, Florea's last "role" was as one of the rumormongers in the Turkish bath scene of *Have You Heard?* (LIFE, July 13). Florea is 26, lives in Los Angeles.

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